



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/574,970	04/07/2006	Shinya Yokodate	288247US2PCT	5931
22850	7590	12/28/2009		
OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, L.L.P. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314				
EXAMINER				
LEIBY, CHRISTOPHER E				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2629				
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
12/28/2009		ELECTRONIC		

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patentdocket@oblon.com

oblonpat@oblon.com

jgardner@oblon.com

**Office Action Summary****Application No.**

10/574,970

**Applicant(s)**

YOKODATE ET AL.

**Examiner**

CHRISTOPHER E. LEIBY

**Art Unit**

2629

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 December 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 17, 18, 28, 35, 58 and 61-64 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 17, 18, 28, 35, 58 and 61-64 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

***Detailed Action***

1. **Claims 17-18, 28, 35, 58, and 61-64** are pending.

***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12/1/2009 has been entered.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.
4. **Claims 17, 35, and 61** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Takagi et al.** (US Patent Application Publication 2003/0189557), herein after referred to as Takagi, in view of **Engstrom** (US Patent 6,944,482) and further in view of **Park et al.** (US Patent Application Publication 2005/0038982).

Regarding **independent claim 17**, Takagi discloses a portable apparatus (*abstract reference portable phone*) comprising: a hinge coupling an end of an operation-side casing having an operation part and an end of a display-side casing having a main display part with each other for pivotable movement thereof (*figure 2 reference hinge connecting display side casing 12 and operational side casing 14 allowing opening and closing motions shown in figures 1 and 2*), an LED display panel which is arranged in a display window formed on a casing surface of said display-side casing other than a surface provided with the main display part (*paragraph [0004] wherein secondary display, shown in figure 1 reference 18, can be an LED display*), wherein said operation part and said main display part are respectively provided on surfaces of said operation-side casing and said display-side casing which face each other in their closed positions (*figure 2 reference display 16 on display side 12 which in the closed position about axis shown in figure 2 would face operation part 20 on operation side 14*); said LED display panel is provided on a surface of said display side casing opposed to the surface provided with the main display part (*figure 1 reference display side 12 with LED display 18 on opposite side of main display 16 shown in figure 2*).

Takagi does not disclose any specifics for the secondary display other than it is an LED display (*paragraph [0004]*) nor does Takagi disclose the degree of rotation about an axis that is perpendicular to the core of the axis of the hinge.

Takagi does show an undisclosed degree of rotation almost at 180 degrees in relation to both parts of the device in figure 2. Further Takagi may not disclose specifics of the secondary display besides that of it possibly being an

LED display figures 4 and 6 and paragraphs [0030]-[0032] disclose a backlight to illuminate the display enabling the display to be visualized by the user.

Engstrom does disclose specifics for an array of LEDs as a secondary display for a portable phone (*abstract and figure 3a*) and which has a plurality of light-emitting diodes (LEDs) outwardly projecting light and matrix-arranged in a plane (*figure 3a reference 1114a and column 9 lines 45-58 wherein the LEDs can be arranged on the backside of the main display arranged in multiple rows and columns*); a display control unit controlling display of said plurality of light-emitting diodes of said LED display panel on the basis of input display data (*figure 1 reference 1102 and controller 1112 specifically a controller for controlling visual data for secondary display of LEDs 1114*); and a main control unit outputting said display data displayed on said LED display panel to said display control unit (*figures 1 and 2 reference 1102 and 1208 respectively*).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine Takagi's portable phone with a secondary LED display with the secondary LED display specifics of Engstrom in order to display a simple display of an incoming call or other information as disclosed by Engstrom (*abstract*).

Further it would have also of been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention that even though Takagi does not disclose specifics for the secondary display, besides it possibly being an LED display, that such a display utilizing a backlight similar to that of an LCD would utilize LEDs in a matrix addressable fashion as would be considered normal in the art for any display.

Park discloses a hinge rotation about an axis that is perpendicular to the core of the axis of the hinge as disclosed in figures 1 and 2 and paragraphs [0007]-[0008].

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to use Park's hinge assembly in order to facilitate the use of a single product in various function/operations modes as disclosed by Park (*abstract and paragraphs [0007]-[0008]*) such as a pda and a phone function/operation.

Regarding **claim 35**, Takagi and Engstrom disclose a portable apparatus, wherein said main display part has a higher resolution than said LED display panel (*Engstrom: discloses a secondary LED display with only a couple of LEDs setup in an array as shown in figure 3a reference 210, wherein the dot pitch between each LED of the secondary display is inherently greater than the LCD main display, even if the columns and rows are increased as described in column 9 lines 45-58, as disclosed by Takagi hence the main display has a higher resolution than the LED display*).

Regarding **claim 61**, Engstrom discloses a portable apparatus, wherein a display pattern to be displayed on said LED display panel is graphic pattern, a design pattern or a letter pattern (*abstract wherein visualizations are used to convey information such as complimentary graphics of non-graphics content and/or visual representation of sound which are graphic patterns or design patterns*).

5. **Claims 28 and 62-64** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Takagi-Engstrom-Park** as applied to claim 17 above, and

further in view of **Hawkins et al.** (US Patent 7,356,361), herein after referred to as Hawkins.

Regarding **independent claim 28**, Takagi and Engstrom disclose a portable apparatus as recited in independent claim 17.

Engstrom discloses wherein the main control unit switches display contents of the LED display panel under a display state by operation of operation keys (*column 8 lines 21-27 wherein LEDs may make visualizations dependant upon key stroking pattern corresponding to a menu selection made*).

Neither Takagi nor Engstrom disclose a portable apparatus further comprising: an operation key operable in a state that said operation-side casing and said display- side casing are in their closed position, wherein the main control unit switches display contents of the LED display panel under a display state by operation of said operation key.

Hawkins does disclose a portable apparatus further comprising: an operation key operable in a state that said operation-side casing and said display- side casing are in their closed position (*figure 1c reference 112, 114, 116, 148, 118, and 120 are all operable when in the closed position*).

It would have been obvious to combine Hawkins cover to enable operation of buttons to Takagi and Engstrom's portable device to operate the buttons while the lid is closed so that a user may still physically access the device to receive input via the user as disclosed by Hawkins (*abstract*).

Regarding **claim 62**, Takagi discloses a portable apparatus, wherein, the main display part is provided on a surface of said display-side casing facing said operation-side casing when the operation-side casing and the display-side casing are in their closed position (*figures 1 and 2 reference main display 16 facing operation side 20 when closed*).

Regarding **claim 63**, Takagi discloses a portable apparatus, wherein the LED display panel is provided on a surface of said display side casing opposed to the surface provided with the main display part (*figure 1 reference 18*).

Regarding **claim 64**, Engstrom discloses a portable apparatus, wherein a display pattern to be displayed on said LED display panel is graphic pattern, a design pattern or a letter pattern (*abstract wherein visualizations are used to convey information such as complimentary graphics of non-graphics content and/or visual representation of sound which are graphic patterns or design patterns*).

- 6. Claims 18 and 58** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Takagi-Engstrom-Park** as applied to claim 17 above, and further in view of **Lee** (US Patent 7,110,796).

Regarding **claims 18 and 58**, Engstrom discloses that the portable device uses LEDs as a secondary display.

Neither Takagi nor Engstrom disclose the portable apparatus, that there is a battery (however inherent to a portable device) or wherein the battery is provided in the operation-side casing.



Lee does disclose a portable apparatus, wherein the battery is provided in the operation-side casing (*figure 4a reference 148*).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine Lee's battery position with Takagi and Engstrom's portable phone in order to enable the user to easily remove or place the battery.

### ***Response to Arguments***

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 17 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s). While not conceding to the argument, in view of the RCE filed and in effort to further prosecution Engstrom discloses a matrix addressable LED display which is now used in combination in place of Engstrom. Further, regarding arguments relating towards claim 28 please refer to above rejection necessitated by amendment.

### ***Conclusion***

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHRISTOPHER E. LEIBY whose telephone number is (571)270-3142. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 - 5 Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alexander Eisen can be reached on 571-272-7687. The

fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

CL

December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009

/Henry N Tran/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2629